(c) Though, no quantitative assessment of work culture etc. is attempted by RBI, Public Sector Banks have earned post tax profits of Rs. 16,238 crore as against Rs. 4,920 crore reported by the private sector banks in 2005-06. Further, the efficiency ratio of the public sector banks has imporved and was marginally better than that of the new private sector banks for the year 2005-06.

(d) To facilitate quick and efficient decision making and to be able to compete globally, Government of India announced a Managerial Autonomy package for the public sector banks on 22.02.2005. Further, the Boards of public sector banks have been allowed to delegate increased sanctioning powers to the CMDs/EDs.

**Appointment of auditors in Banks**

4020. SHRIC. PERUMAL: Will the the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Public Sector Banks have been allowed to appoint auditors directly instead of routing through Reserve Bank of India;

(b) whether auditors have expressed their apprehensions against this; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Outsourcing for rationalising operational costs by Banks**

4021. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Nationalised Banks are increasingly using outsourcing for rationalising operational costs by avoiding wasteful expenditure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have issued any guidelines or direction to all Nationalised Banks for managing risks arising from such outsourcing activities in the country effectively; and